

Richmond Thronged With People From Every Section of the Country

SONS OF VETERANS PRAISE NOBLE WOMEN

Sponsors and Maids of Honor Introduced to Veterans—Rev. Mr. Foster Makes Brilliant Address. Sponsors Must Take Part in Reunions.

The feature of the convention of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans and one of the most delightful and successful phases of the entire reunion was the presentation of the sponsors and maids of honor at the City Auditorium last night. The immense audience, numbering probably two thousand persons, and including many veterans, was aroused to the wildest enthusiasm by the array of representative Southern beauties on the rostrum, by the stirring eloquent and patriotic addresses of the Sons, and by the inspiring and appropriate music. Seldom has such a brilliant bevy of fair femininity ever assembled in this city as that which last night represented the galaxy of States embraced in the Southern Confederacy. Without disparagement of the other speakers, the address of the Rev. John S. Foster, of Petersburg, Va., in presenting the sponsors and maids, was the sparkling oratorical gem among several highly creditable addresses. Nor was this attributable wholly to the inspiration of his theme. The speech of the eloquent young minister was above all criticism in composition and delivery, and may be justly characterized as unexcelled, if not incomparable. With polished, glowing rhetoric and rhythmic periods, the speaker clothed a brilliant and admirably discriminating eulogy of Southern womanhood, and gave to it the eloquence of sincerity and entire earnestness. There was nothing fulsome, nothing overdone, but merely a thoughtful and polished eulogy, which received the encomiums of the audience in every utterance.

The addresses of Messrs. Edwin P. Cox, of this city; E. N. Scudder, of Vicksburg, Miss.; and W. O. Hart, of New Orleans, were eloquent, and won deserved applause, but it is no invidious distinction to say that the address of the eloquent clergyman was easily the speech of the occasion.

Beautiful Tableau.
The audience was late assembling at the Auditorium, so late that it was almost 9:30 o'clock when Commander Banks, of the Virginia Division of the Sons, called the convention to order, and the execution of the program began. Across the wide front of the proscenium arch a curtain of red and white, in alternate stripes, had been drawn, behind which the officers of the Sons and the sponsors and maids were grouped. When the signal was given, the curtain was drawn aside and disclosed a tier of beautiful young women, superbly gowned, and each holding in her hand a small Confederate flag. As the music of the Richmond Light Infantry Blues band played "Dixie" and the sponsors and maids all rose and stood waving their banners during the rendition of the old familiar air that never fails to stir a Southern audience. Wave after wave of applause surged over the hall, men and women rising and waving hats and flags and shouting with all their power. It was a thrilling and beautiful tableau, indeed, and one of which no one wearied of viewing.

After the convention had been called to order, prayer was offered by the chaplain-general, the Rev. John W. Caldwell, who returned thanks for the kindly provisions that permitted the audience to be thus assembled, and which they had been blessed. He invoked Divine blessing and guidance for the Veterans and for the Sons, and prayed that God might grant the Veterans a grand reunion in their eternal home.

Pride in the Veterans.
Commander Banks then expressed the pleasure of the Sons and of the sponsors and maids at the entertainment accorded them, and the pride all felt in the Confederate veterans. "Your sons and daughters are proud of the fact that they are children of Confederate veterans," said he. He then presented Commander-in-Chief Owen, who presided thereafter.

Commander Owen referred to the origin of the Sons of Confederate Veterans organization in this city eleven years ago, and attributed the inauguration of that movement to a son of the old Commonwealth whom all delighted to honor. He then introduced the gentlemen to whom he referred, the Hon. Edwin P. Cox, of this city, who extended a warm and cordial welcome to the visitors. "I am commissioned to extend to you a hearty welcome to the battle-ground Capital of the Confederacy," said Mr. Cox in his opening words. "Your devotion for the city and to this city in its time of distress and trial have endeared you to our people."

"And you, fair maids and sponsors, representatives of our Southland, dearest jewels, her home-bred beauties, won the hearts of all our people, and when you depart for your homes you will leave many an aching heart behind, but the love thus aroused will be remembered in tears by those who remain." Mr. Cox then extended an eloquent greeting to the battle-scarred heroes of the war, to whom he paid a lofty tribute, characterizing them as men who had won immortal victory and deathless fame. The name of J. E. B. Stuart was the synonym of unparalleled chivalry. He was glad, he said, that this city has today paid a tribute to him who defended it with his life and drove back the invader when he had penetrated within the sound of the city's church bells.

Turning again to the veterans, he said: "In days gone by you shared with us our poverty; let us today share with you our prosperity." In concluding the speaker expressed the hope that the memories of the valor and devotion of the Confederate soldier might inspire the men of the South for all time as did the heart of Bruce the Crusaders in their fight against the Saracens.

"Auld Lang Syne."
The band played "Auld Lang Syne" amid cheers. As the strains died away Commander-in-Chief Owen introduced Mr. E. N. Scudder, of Vicksburg, Miss., who made the response to the address of welcome, in a virile and forceful address. In earnest and eloquent language he conveyed the thanks of the

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the
Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*

visiting Sons to the fair ladies of Richmond for the many favors and for the citizens generally for their hospitable entertainment. Every son of a veteran thanked the people, said he, for the magnificent reception accorded. He eulogized Washington and Jefferson and Virginia's great sons of other days, and Lee, Jackson, and the men of more recent history who had added lustre to the name of the Mother State.

He quoted the testimony of foes to establish the genius of Lee and attributed his final defeat to his decimated legions. Mr. Scudder commended alike the Puritan and the Cavalier, and declared that both had contributed to the mighty and indissoluble Union of to-day and to the nation which was moulding the governments of the earth. Commander Owen, in introducing Rev. John S. Foster, who presented the sponsors and maids, stated that while reunions are primarily for the honor and glory of the veterans, he thought the audience would agree that a reunion without the ladies would be a failure.

Gem of the Evening.
Mr. Owen then presented Mr. Foster, who delivered the address of the occasion, leaving little for the following speaker to add in eulogy of Southern womanhood. "If the contribution of the South to this Union were withdrawn the brightest glories of this republic would disappear," said the speaker. The brightest page in the volume of her achievements was that which recorded the sacrifices and the privations and sacrifice of her daughters. The men who were the gray would be less than human if they were not proud of that glorious record. The souls of Southern men enshrine a glorious womanhood, whose fidelity was their inspiration and solace. "When the flower forgets the sunshine and the mariner the star that guides him, then, and not till then, will the men of the South cease to honor you."

With this beginning the speaker reviewed the service of woman in the home stripped of its men, in the school where the youth of the land were instructed and in the hospital where the wounded were nursed. He eulogized the sponsors and maids as worthy successors of such mothers, and declared that if the occasion arose they would tender as heroic and unselfish service. The place of woman as sister, sweetheart, wife and mother would be filled by the women of to-day as it had been by the women of forty years ago.

Replied for Sponsors.
Commander Owen introduced Mr. W. O. Hart, of New Orleans, to respond on behalf of the visitors, and especially for the young ladies. He expressed his appreciation of the honor of speaking on behalf of this galaxy of maids and sponsors, and warmly defended the custom of naming them in future reunions, declaring that the failure of General Lee to appoint any was due to an error of the Daughters of the Confederacy, which he hoped would be rectified before another convention. "At the next reunion we are going to have so many that it will be no use with all this array of beauty here assembled, they will sink into insignificance," Mr. Hart intimated that Mr. Foster had said, and commended him for saying it. He declared that the women of the South did much for the cause as the faded belles, which shed his blood to nourish its young. It was his glory to be a Confederate son, he said, but it was a greater glory to be a Confederate mother.

He declared that the prominence of the present generation of Southern men, the high standing of the nation and the faithful discharge by the women of the Confederacy of the trust committed to them as mothers. He contended that the young ladies there assembled would do as much as did their mothers if the occasion arose. Finally he recognized the role of the women in the rearing of monuments and exhorted them to continue this laudable work.

Secessionists But Not Rebels.
At the conclusion of the address an old veteran spoke in indorsement of what Mr. Hart said as to sponsors.

Mr. Owen in closing the convention made a brief address, reviewing the important and valuable work of the Sons in preserving and collecting the history of the South.

He declared with impassioned fervor that the Confederates were secessionists, but rebels never. Before the adjournment Commander Owen announced the members of the committee on credentials to follow: W. O. Thompson, of Alabama; J. E. Pennington, of Washington, D. C.; James P. Tarvin, of Kentucky; H. M. Gill, of Louisiana; J. Mercer Garnett, of Maryland; P. E. Dreher, of Missouri; T. B. Collier, of Tennessee; John T. Williams, of Texas; A. D. Smith, Jr., of Virginia; Paul W. Garrett, of Virginia; E. Norfleet, of North Carolina, and Dr. W. H. Scudder, of Mississippi.

The convention then adjourned.

Morning Session.
It was 10:15 o'clock before Commander E. B. Thomasson rapped the convention of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans to order. Even at that hour only about 200 of the sons had gathered at the Auditorium, although there were probably 1,000 in the city.

Owing to the late hour of assembling, Commander Thomasson made no formal address, but merely rapped the assembly to order.

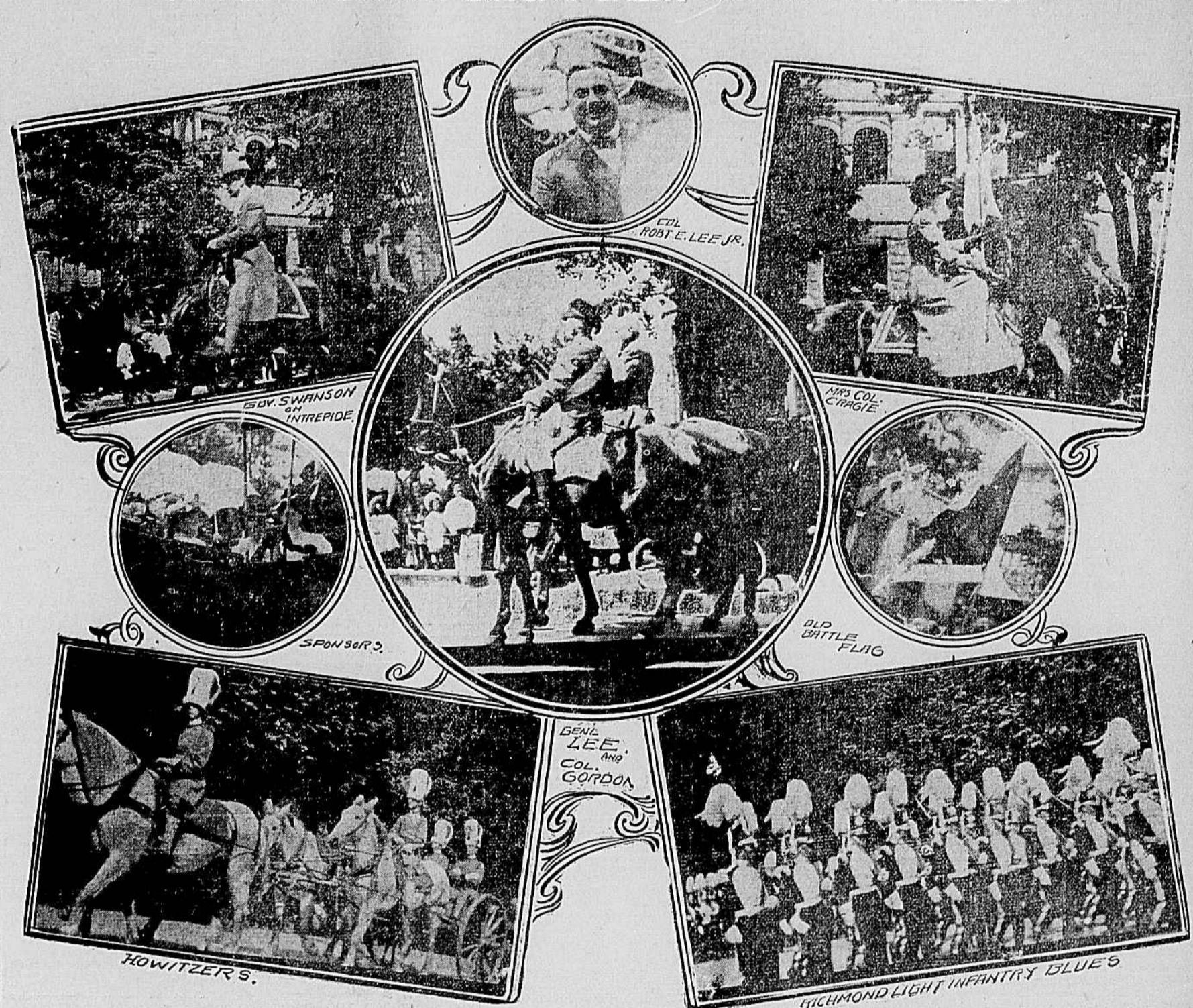
Immediately following this, a drum and fife corps, which had been sent to the city, which corps played a spirited rendition of Dixie, which aroused great enthusiasm and demonstrated that the sons were not unfamiliar with the "Rebel yell" of their forefathers.

Rev. John W. Caldwell, of New Orleans, offered a fervent and appropriate prayer for the great gathering of the veterans and of the sons of Veterans, and invoked divine blessing upon all.

Commander Speaks.
Commander Thomasson briefly welcomed the sons to the historic city, which their fathers had so valiantly defended forty years ago. He gave the visitors a cordial greeting and turned over to them the keys of the city.

Hon. E. Lee Trimble, of Wytheville, Va., was introduced, and in a few graceful and graceful words, he presented Division Commander James P. Banks, of Petersburg, commanding the Virginia Division. Division Commander Banks, without the formality of a speech, but

SCENES ON STREET DURING GREAT PARADE YESTERDAY.



In a few words, introduced Mr. George R. Wyman, of Louisville, commanding the Army of Northern Virginia Department, who after briefly acknowledging the greetings, presented Dr. Thomas M. Owen, of Montgomery, Ala., commander-in-chief of the U. S. C. V., who congratulated those present upon their presence and interest, and paid a tribute to the men whose sons were here assembled. Commander-in-Chief Owen announced that he could be found at any reasonable hour at the Richmond Hotel, but that owing to illness in his family, he would probably not be able to be present at all times, but hoped to be here.

Adjutant-General Sexton called the roll of officers, but the calling of the roll of the 500 camps was dispensed with, and the various camps were requested to deliver their credentials to the adjutant-general, who in turn will deliver them to the committee on credentials.

Commander Owen stated that in accordance with its custom, the convention would name a committee to extend formal greetings to the convention of the fathers. He then announced the following to constitute that committee: Chairman, John W. Apperson, of Memphis, Tenn.; "Happy Jack" Apperson, arose and in feeling tones announced the illness of the wife of Commander-in-Chief Owen, and expressed the regret of the convention. He then proposed that the convention extend a rising vote of sympathy with Commander Owen, and to request him to assure Mrs. Owen of the sympathy of his comrades.

Colonel Apperson put the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Women's Monument.
At this point Commander Owen introduced that noble veteran, Colonel Tichenor, of New Orleans, who spoke of the woman's monument to be reared by the sons. Colonel Tichenor was accorded an enthusiastic welcome as he arose. As the originator and advocate of the woman's monument, he protested against any change in the plan, and announced that he would later submit an argument against the proposition to change or abandon the project.

Commander E. B. Thomasson, of this city, announced that the official program of the sponsors and maids of honor would be made at night, and that the Hon. Edwin P. Cox would make the address of welcome, and that the address would be made by Mr. E. N. Scudder, of Vicksburg, Miss. The presentation of the sponsors and maids by Rev. J. S. Foster and the response by Commander-in-Chief Hart, of Beauregard Camp, of New Orleans, were also announced.

The convention then took a recess until the evening, and Commander-in-Chief Owen held an informal reception on the rostrum. He was greeted by nearly all the prominent Sons and by a number of maids and sponsors. Of those present at the opening ses-

sion, nearly all the grand and division officers were included. At to-day's session Colonel James Mann, of Virginia, will present the report of the committee on the woman's monument, and a spirited discussion is anticipated.

Greatly Pleased.
The commander-in-chief of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, Dr. Thomas M. Owen, of Montgomery, Ala., is the scholar of the Sons' organization, and one of the foremost of the younger literary men and historical students of the South. He is a serious, thoughtful and forceful man, of high purpose and unselfish patriotism.

In conversation with a Times-Dispatch representative yesterday, Dr. Owen expressed himself as greatly pleased with his visit to Richmond. Although suffering severe physical pain and naturally disturbed by reason of his wife's illness, he was present at the Auditorium yesterday morning, and opened the convention of the Sons. Speaking of the organization, its condition, its aims and its achievements, he said:

"The confederation was never in better condition. We have over 550 camps, scattered throughout the several Southern States, with camps in several Northern and Western States. A large percentage of these is in good standing, and doing good relief, monument and historical work."

"The confederation is strictly a historical and benevolent organization. Its aim is to afford relief to needy Confederate veterans, their widows and orphans; to mark the spots made famous in the great campaigns of the war; to assist in the erection of monuments and memorials, and to preserve in unsullied purity the history of the great struggle of the '60s."

"During my administration, next to relief measures, I have exerted myself particularly to the development of the historical features of our organization. I have, through our history committee and through local historians, done everything possible to secure the elimination of objectionable historical works from the schools of the South, and through the same agencies have encouraged the collection and preservation of the fast-perishing materials for the history of the Confederacy."

"We are on higher ground than ever before in these particulars, and plans are in motion which will carry us still further forward. The point of greatest value to the Confederate soldier is that the record of his valorous career should not be forgotten or lost in any of its details. It is for the Sons to protect the fair name of their fathers, and this they will do to the uttermost. For this purpose, our organization came into being. It was at their bidding that we formed the confederation in Richmond on July 1, 1896. We know that we are working with their approval. All that we are doing is done for their glory."

**CONFEDERATE ARMY
AT STUART STATUE**
(Continued from Fourth Page.)
was the Forty-third Battalion of Virginia Cavalry, under the brave, skillful and distinguished commander, Colonel John S. Mosby. Their heroic deeds form this they will do to the uttermost. For this purpose, our organization came into being. It was at their bidding that we formed the confederation in Richmond on July 1, 1896. We know that we are working with their approval. All that we are doing is done for their glory."

Exposition Excursions
Via C. & O. To-Morrow
\$1.50 round trip. Trains leave Richmond, Main Street Station, 8 A. M.

And now, my comrades, our task is done. This day, so long expected, has come at last to bless our vision and rejoice our hearts. Again Stuart rides with his great commander who himself wrote the epitaph of his chief of cavalry. In official orders announcing his death to the army May 20, 1864, General Lee said:

"Among the gallant soldiers who have fallen in this war General Stuart was second to none in valor, in zeal and in undimmed devotion to his country. His achievements form a conspicuous part of the history of this army, with which his name and services will be forever associated. To the nobler virtues of the soldier he added the brighter graces of a pure life, guided and sustained by the Christian's faith and hope. The mysterious hand of an all-wise God has removed him from the scene, of his usefulness and fame."

Inspiring Influence.
And he added these words, carved upon this monument and graven in our hearts: "His grateful countrymen will mourn his loss and cherish his memory. To his comrades in arms he has left the proud recollection of his deeds and the inspiring influence of his example."

Once more Stuart rides with Lee, and again I see him, as on the plains of Brandy, the phantom horseman pass him in review. Their survivors now on the eve of life's last battle exclaiming now as then, "To morituri salutamus!"

Some of Stuart's pupils in the art of war have grown wiser, they think, than their master, and some have been held to write themselves down as critics after the event. General Lee once wrote that even as poor a general as he himself was could see what might have been done after the battle was over. It has been truly said that the general who never made a mistake never fought a battle.

But now, waiting all controversy and comparison, Stuart stands upon the record inscribed upon this monument. The testimony of two witnesses is true—the witnesses are Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee.

To the city of Richmond, as its faithful guardian, we commit this monument, in whose care and keeping it will henceforth stand in token of a people's gratitude and in perpetual memory of his heroic name.

Stuart.
"I've called his name, a statue stern
It rests enthroned upon the mighty past,
Fit plinth for him whose image in the mind
Looms up as that of one by God designed.
Fit plinth in sooth. The mighty past
Fit him, whose simple name is glory's synonym,
Even fancy's self in her enchanted sleep
Can dream no future which may cease
His name is guard, like sentinel, and cry
From Time's great bastions: 'It shall never die.'"

**VETERANS CHEER
LEE AND OTHERS**
(Continued from Second Page.)
died only with its annihilation, we feel that we should remove the shoes from off our feet, for the ground on which we stand is almost holy ground!

"Is it a meaningless ceremony for sons to bid their own fathers welcome?"

"Can we forget the priceless heritage which is ours because we are Sons of Confederate Veterans?"

"Can we fail to remember that military annals record no martial achievements surpassing those of the armies of the Confederacy; that these armies fought for principle, not power, surrendering all things save honor, which men hold dear, to follow that splendid red cross flag, which to-day, though 'faded forever,' and with no place among the banners of the nation, is proudly cherished and revered, because all untarnished by dishonor, it is hallowed by the blood of thousands from the ranks as well as of scores of those rare spirits, who taken by the swift winged Valkyries from the very mesh of battle are waiting in that glorious Valhalla where the choicest spirits of the slain are marshalled for the final contest of the Gods? Can we remember these things and not be deeply moved by the almost sacred inspiration which comes with the knowledge that these men are our own fathers, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh?"

"Do we not know that the highest virtues to which manhood can lay claim were exemplified in the lives of men who were your leaders, and that you yourselves, when the hour had come, when the burdens too heavy for mortals to bear had been reluctantly laid down and the very doors of Hope seemed shut forever in your faces, did not sink into supine despair, but lived out for us marvelous examples of the truest citizenship, and laid the foundations of the New South, now the marvel as well as the pride of a reunited country?"

"We hear even now that this magnificent record, this amazing example of the truest citizenship, and all the history of human progress, has been accomplished by and is entirely due to the efforts of strangers and the money of the North!"

"We would not forget the helping hands that were held out to us in our time of need. Discontent and selfishness have had small place in the hearts of our best people, but we know that the real workers, the foundation-builders of the prosperity of Dixie have been the men who followed the stainless banners of Lee, and the South of today is an enduring and a splendid tribute to your own works and made possible only by your own lives. How can we find words with which to welcome such men?"

"More than a generation ago the trenches around Richmond, swept by shot and shell, where only brave men dared to go, were, for many of you your only home. The passing years have wrought many changes. To the four corners of the earth the once famous legions have been scattered. Your comrades have fallen on every side. Your own white hair, veritable crowns of glory, show plainly that for many of you, too, the final goal is not far distant. To-day you have come back, not with pomp and circumstance of war and without laurel crowns of victory upon your brows, but having with you still the satisfaction which proceeds from the consciousness of duty faithfully performed, and the knowledge that the hearts of your sons are filled with tenderness and love toward you. What shall we say? What can we say to you?"

"For us:
"God of our fathers known of old,
Lord of our far-flung battle-line,
Beneath whose awful hand we hold
Our doomed and dying life,
Lord, God of Hosts, be with us yet—
Lest we forget, lest we forget—
"And for you, veterans of a hundred

battles, heroes, soldiers without fear and without reproach!

"Welcome! Oh, welcome home!"

Greeting to Commander.
"I will now turn this convention and this hall over to the command of one of the grandest men in our ranks. Comrades, salute your grand commander, General Stephen D. Lee, of Mississippi!"

In these few words Gen. Bolling introduced the grand commander of the United Confederate Veterans. The venerable old fighter walked to the front of the stage and picked up the gavel, but he could not say a word that could be heard. The applause was simply deafening.

All the old soldiers arose from their chairs, waved their hats and cheered until the hall was in a roar. The last one of them was so hoarse his voice could scarcely be heard two rows of seats ahead of him.

Addressing his remarks first to Governor Swanson, Mayor McCarthy and Mr. Morgan, General Lee made response to the addresses of welcome and then in tender terms he spoke to the "long thin gray line." His speech, given in full elsewhere, was a brave defense of the principles for which the veterans fought, bled and died.

General Mickle Delayed.

Owing to the failure of the train on which Adjutant General Mickle is traveling from New Orleans to make connection at Birmingham and Atlanta, that distinguished officer could not be in attendance upon the meeting yesterday morning, and as all the papers of the organization are in his delayed trunk, the business of the convention could not be taken up.

This fact was stated by the grand commander, and then, after several announcements of side meetings were made, the convention, on the adjournment of the adjutant-general, adjourned at 10 o'clock this morning.

The delay in the transaction of business, though annoying to a certain extent, does not mean much to the old soldiers. The fact is the convention has very little business to transact. The annual gathering is simply a reunion, and that is being held all over the city. The adjutant-general has been in the city at various State headquarters, in the homes of the hospitable people of Richmond—everywhere and anywhere that old veterans meet and talk over the stirring events of forty-six years ago.

STREET CARS STOPPED BY FLOODS IN BEAUMONT.

BEAUMONT, TEXAS, May 29.—The heaviest rain in the history of this city has been falling since last night. The city is flooded with water, and in some sections is from one to four feet deep. Nothing but the main line of the Southern Railway has been kept open, and street cars are suspended on some lines. The Southern Pacific tracks are washed away out thirty-three miles west of here, temporarily stopping traffic on the main line. A wind-storm struck the business center of the city, seriously damaging several large buildings.

ITALIANS FIGHT DUEL OVER YOUNG GIRL.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 29.—Augustine Celesti, aged twenty-two years, was shot and killed, and Giacomo Taromi, aged thirty years, and Vincent Costa, thirty-seven years, were fatally wounded in a pistol duel, in which the injured men engaged here to-night.

GO TO

Jamestown Exposition
Via C. & O.

Excursion trains leave Richmond to-morrow (Saturday), June 1st, 8 A. M. \$1.50 round trip. Shortest and quickest route. The only way to see the war-ships.